Plan is yet to be finalised, it is not possible to indicate the outlay earmarked for development of Cuttack-Bhubaneswar Section of N.H. No. 5 during VIII Plan period. However, four-laning of this stretch has been projected to the World Bank for assistance under the proposed Second National Highway Loan. Negotiations for the loan have been completed, but the World Bank is yet to sign the loan. As such, it is too early to say when the work of four-laning will commence and be completed.

Lifting of Ban on Foreign Shipping Lines

2225. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a ban on foreign shipping lines operating coastal cargo trade in the country has been lifted; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) With a view to attract transhipment container traffic in the Indian Ports, a decision has been taken to temporarily relax the coasting trade restriction in favour of those foreign lines who bring main line container vessels to Ports in India and take export containers from India to their destinations without transhipment.

Appointment of Conductors

2226. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is surplus staff with D.T.C. in Driver and Conductor cadres;

(b) if so, the number of such surplus staff in each cadre, separately, and what arrangement has been made by the DTC to absorb surplus staff;

(c) if not, the extent of shortage in each cadre and what arrangement has been made to make up the shortage;

(d) whether Conductors are proposed to be deployed by the DTC on the proposed 3000 buses which are being permitted to ply in Delhi;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and what arrangement Government have made to absorb 1775 candidates who are awaiting their appointment since 1986 in Conductor cadre in DTC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) As per current norms, DTC have a surplus staff of 2336 employees in the category of conductors. These norms are under review.

(c) As on 1-2-1992, 254 drivers were short. This shortage cannot be made up as all further recruitments have been banned in Delhi Transport Corporation.

(d) and (e) It has been decided to provide as many surplus staff as are required by the Delhi Administration to assist them in the implementation of the scheme of grant of stage carriage permits to 3000 buses in Delhi.

(f) The empanelled candidates who are awaiting their appointment in conductors' cadre cannot be absorbed in DTC till the vacancies arise in the cadre and the ban on recruitment lifted.

Express Highways

2227. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified 10,000 Kms. of highways to be earmarked for 'express highways'; and

(b) if so, what are the stretches of highways identified in Andhra Pradesh for this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In 1988, the Government had made broad identification of a probable Expressway network for the country of about 10,000 Kms. length, subject to feasibility studies etc. being conducted in due course. The routes in this plan passing through

Andhra Pradesh are as under:

(a) Madras-Visakhapatnam-Bhubaneswar-Calcutta;

(b) Bombay-Pune-Bangalore-Madras; &

(c) Hyderabad-Vijayawada.

Concessional DTC Passes to students of National Vocational Training Institute Noida

2228. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that students of National Vocational Training Institute, Noida (sector 8), New Ashok Nagar have requested the D.T.C. Authorities to issue concessional passes to them;

(b) if so, what action DTC authorities have taken thereon; and

(c) by when the facility for concessional passes is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Students of National Vocational Training Institute Noida, Sector-I had made a representation for issue of concessional passes by DTC.

(b) and (c) DTC Free and Concessional Pass Regulations, 1985 do not provide for extending the facilities of concessional passes to the students of those institutions which are located outside Delhi and as such, DTC cannot extend this facility to the students of Vocational Training Institutute, NOIDA (U.P.).

Upgradation of roads in Andhra Pradesh

2229. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the roads in Andhra Pradesh which have been upgraded as National Highways during 1991-92 and also those which are likely to be upgraded as National Highways during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): No new National Highways were added in Andhra Pradesh during 1991-92. A decision about declaration of new National Highways in various States including Andhra Pradesh would be taken up after finalisation of the 8th Plan keeping in view recommendations of the National Transport Policy Committee, prescribed criteria for new N.Hs, availability of funds for the purpose, etc. As such, it is too early to indicate which roads in the country including any in Andhra Pradesh would be declared as National Highways during 1992-93.

Purchase Committee of D.T.C.

2230. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be please to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that allegations of corrupt practices have been made against four-member Purchase Committee of Delhi Transport Corporation;

(b) whether this is one of the reasons for deterioration in the functioning of D.T.C. and losses;

(c) if so, whether any investigation/ inquiry is proposed to be conducted regarding purchases made in D.T.C.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No allegation of corrupt practices has been received against the members of the Purchase Committee of DTC.

(b) to (d) Does not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

इंदौर में बाइपास का निर्माण

2231. **श्री राधा किशन मालवीय:** क्या **जल-भूतल परिवहन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग संख्या 3 (आगरा-मुम्बई मार्ग) पर इन्दौर शहर में 31.6 किलोमीटर लम्बे बाईपास के निर्माण के लिए भूमि का अधिग्रहण किया जा चुका है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका निर्माण कार्य कब तक आरम्भ किए जाने की सम्भावना है?

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदीश टाइटलर): (क) जी, हां।